I am against the concentration of media ownership that would be allowed under Docket 02-277 (Broadcast Ownership). I believe that it is not in the public's best interest to have only a handful, or even one or two, owners of all of the media in a city or even in our nation. In day to day life, it will eliminate options for differing points of view. When the stakes are high, we shall find pretty much the same news on every channel, except for cosmetic differences. On the grand scale, the consolidation of the media industry will eliminate the diversity of voices that are necessary to maintain this democracy.

All these years that I have worked with the FCC (starting as a teenager) and other regulatory agencies in obtaining my professional licenses, I have learned that decisions should first consider public safety and the public interest. I do not see how the public interest is being served by consolidation of Broadcast Ownership because the public is composed of individual people who need to consider many points of view before taking action.

Please do NOT approve measures that will allow further consolidation of broadcast ownership.

Thank you,

Steven A. Schwartz, D.Sc., P.E. Professional Engineer in Illinois, Florida and Missouri 1st Class (General) Radiotelephone license with Radar Endorsement Amateur Extra radio license